

# **Basingstoke breast cancer self-help group meeting**

## **23 January 2018 (AGM)**

Chairman: Angela Bennett

Treasurer: Renee Smith

Minutes: Lyn Nelson

### **Referrals**

These totalled 23 ladies in 2017, which is a decrease of three from 2016. Breakdown as follows:

	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>
DTC nurses/ leaflet	4	9
Ref by group member	11	8
Website	5	6
Macmillan website	1	1
Cake sale	2	0

### **Cash and donations received**

April concert at QMC raised £2657.17

Quiz night at the Jekyll and Hyde raised £235.00

October cake sale at Basingstoke and North Hampshire Hospital raised £269.55

The group received two large donations in the year, The Wote Street Club donated £1335.17 and Waitrose donated £400. The money generated from the £2 for tea/coffee was £579.22 and raffle money raised £290.22 added to the three events, totalled £4031.06 raised by the group.

Ladies of the group very kindly make donations throughout the year. We are most grateful to Joyce, Carol and Doreen, plus Peter Ayling and his two sons who donated money in memory of his wife Sam who was a member of the group. Mrs Rita Manual continues to support the group with her £10 monthly direct debit, which she has done for many years. We are grateful for this support.

### **Fundraising**

Joyce and Isobel along with the help of Pat, Kirsten and Pam kindly agreed to form the first fundraising committee. In the summer, they organised a quiz at the Jekyll and Hyde pub which was a great success. The evening was well supported and raised £245.00 from the raffle at the end of the evening. It was hoped to hold another quiz evening at the same venue, but due to change in management it unfortunately did not take place.

The group's concert 'That's entertainment' at QMC raised £2657.17 was very kindly organised by Renee with help from Wendi, Sue, Anne, Doreen, Carol and their husbands, who organised refreshments, raffle, tables and chairs, and cleared up after the event.

### **Guest speakers**

Suzanne Light who spoke of the importance of looking after our skin and demonstrated the art of applying make-up.

Rachel Nelson spoke about Reiki and other relaxation techniques, as well as the properties of certain crystals.

Mr Kevin Harris, consultant surgeon.

Sandy Lyford, matron at the DTC, plus Lizzie and Alison who are breast care nurses along with Elizabeth Happle and her colleague Jackie.

Miss Anne Stebbing came in November. It was her last visit to our group as she has now retired from working full time at the hospital.

Thanks also to Doreen who brought along her handmade cards, wreaths, table centres, crocheted blankets and trinkets for us to purchase.

Anne McAllister who was going to give a talk and demonstration on sign language was unable to attend.

### **Website**

Due to personal circumstances, Linda was unable to continue looking after the group's website, a new lady to the group Julie kindly offered to do so, but with starting a new job and moving house, she was unable to continue. Paula Searle, the manager of the hospital's Health Information Point, kindly offered to take over the website and also set up a Facebook page for us. Paula also helps with the organisation of our annual cake sale. Many thanks to her.

### **Social events for 2017**

May: A visit to Diple Mill with a private tour with Rose who owns the delightful gardens with cream teas available after. Angela was on holiday, so Doreen kindly stepped in to oversee the visit. Thank you Doreen.

June: Around 60 ladies with family and friends attended a quiz night at the Jekyll and Hyde organised by Joyce and Isobel with help from Pat, Kirsten and Pam. £235 was raised with the raffle.

July: 16 ladies visited the lavender fields near Alton for a tour and afterwards were served a cream tea. 40 ladies along with family enjoyed a trip on the Basingstoke Canal on the John Pinkerton. We had supper at the start of the cruise - fish and chips, and chicken and chips - delivered by Olivers fish and chip restaurant. This had kindly been organised by Renee.

August: There was not a group meeting in August, it was replaced by a skittles evening at the Basingstoke Conservative Club with a meal. Thank you Renee for organising the evening and congratulations Kirsten for winning the trophy.

December: The group's Christmas dinner was at the Conservative Club. The food was excellent. Joyce and Isobel organised a raffle with prizes donated by the group, thank you to them. Also once again, many thanks to Renee for organising the evening.

## **Social events for 2018**

Concert at QMC on Saturday 24 March

Skittles evening 21 August, venue TBC

Christmas party 18 December, venue TBC

Canal trip has been booked for Friday 27 July. Details to follow at a later date.

## **Summary**

**Treasurer:** Renee as our treasurer is responsible for looking after both the current and Cadbury accounts, and monitoring the group's expenditure. This is all backed up by a printed spreadsheet each month. Renee also banks all monies generated by the group, keeps all personal details for our contact sheet which she regularly updates, she also meets up with new ladies and visits group members at home if required. Thank you Renee.

**Secretary:** Lyn writes all the minutes for the meetings and has in the past forwarded them to Linda and Julie, but will in future send them to Paula. Lyn also writes letters to prospective speakers and takes turns with Wendi to bake cakes for the group. She also organised the cake sale.

Wendi also bakes cakes for the group and helps Renee when collecting monies for events, also group raffle money and tea/coffee money. Thank you Wendi.

Doreen helps Renee with ideas for the concert. She has bought material to make tablecloths as people can eat snacks while the show is on and the cloths can be used for future events. Doreen also helps organise the cake sale at the hospital and will put on a beetle drive if there are no speakers. Thank you to Doreen.

The group always make a donation to the Ark for letting us hold our meetings there free of charge. Angela is asked to write a brief report on our activities during the year which is submitted to the trustees. Since 2003, the group have donated in excess of £20,000 to the Ark.

Angela thanked the group for all the help and support given to her.

The meeting ended with a raffle.